THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The question of sharing the Ganga Waters and of the possible augmentation of the flows at Farakka were last discussed by the Irrigation Ministers of India and Bangladesh in June, 1985 at Dhaka. The talks were adjourned and are to be resumed in New Delhi at an early date. Efforts are being made to reach agreement on this matter at an early date.

Eradication of Leprosy

*35. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidence of leprosy is on the increase in the country and the arrangements to eradicate leprosy are inadequate; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Ship-Building Yard during Seventh Plan

*36. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up ship building/ship repairing yards during the Seventh Plan; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) The Working Group on Ship-Building and Ship Repair Industry set up by the Planning Commission for the Seventh Plan has proposed the creation of a new ship-building yard. However, the Seventh Plan proposals are yet to be finalised. For ship repair facilities, private entrepreneurs are being encouraged to create such facilities to various ports of the country.

Drastic cut in Financial Allocation for power development in the Seventh Five-Year Plan

*37. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Seventh Five-Year Plan financial allocation for the power development has been drastically cut from the estimated Rs. 68,000 crores to Rs. 35,000 crores; and

(b) if so, to what extent it will affect the various power generation projects?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The Seventh Plan allocation of the Power sector are not commensurate with the requirements projected by the Working Group on Power.

(b) The effect on the power generation projects will be determined after the Seventh Plan is finalized by the National Development council.